

**Ontario Fire Service Advisory Committee
(Section 21 Committee)*
Final Minutes
June 5- 6, 2014**

Meeting held at the IHSA Voyager Training Centre, 21Voyager Court S, Etobicoke.

Commencing at noon on Thursday June 5, 2014

Present:

John Mavrinac	OPFFA – Committee Co-Chair
Andy Kostiuk	O AFC – Committee Co-Chair
Jim Jessop	OFM
Mike Vilneff	O AFC
Jeff Topliffe	OPFFA
Warren McGillivary	OPFFA
Cathy Hoffman	AMO
Mark Pankhurst	AMO
Rod McEachern	FFAO

Joe O’Grady MOL Facilitator

Regrets:

Darren Storey – FFAO
Terry Gervais - O AFC
Chris Francescone - OPFFA
Denys Prevost - O AFC

Special Guests:

1. **Note:** PSHSA were involved in training exercises and will attend in September.
2. **Review of Draft Minutes from March 6/7, 2014**
Minutes accepted as read.

Action: Joe to finalize the minutes and distribute for posting on the websites.

3. **Business arising from the minutes** - none.
4. **Review of GN 2-7- Re: Exposure Reporting** - Should traumatic or extremely mentally stressful events be added as an exposure?
After some discussion consensus was that exposure reporting should remain focused on physical agents and that this concern would be part of any guidance related to comprehensive “healthy workplace” or “wellness” programs for fire services.

Action: This concern will be considered as part of item 11 on the agenda.

5. Post fire explosion hazards of acetylene cylinders – proposed new GN

A draft was presented for consideration. Status as a guidance note/information bulletin/alert was also discussed. Question was asked whether this topic should be broadened to “pressurized vessels”. It was agreed to format the draft, add references and discuss alert status with the PSHSA and OFM.

Action: Joe to reformat, discussions with OFM / PSHSA to occur at latest in September meeting.

6. GN #1-2 – Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Program

Jeff presented a revised note for discussion. References are to be finalized (including verification of the HTA references to daily inspections). Consensus was changes were not substantial and it was agreed to move the update straight to approvals.

Action: Joe to format and forward this note for MOL review.

7. GN #6-7 – Driving Skills for Emergency Apparatus

At request of Chief Mintoff this note was reviewed by the committee. It was agreed to add OHSA references to associate duties under the ACT to the potential hazards of this concern. Approved for MOL review.

Action: Joe to edit/format and forward this note for MOL review

8. Review of GN #6-2 and #6-3 – Moved forward to September pending presentation of guest speaker from Transport Canada.

9. GN # 6-3 – Water and Ice Rescue : See item #8 above

10. Manual Appendix D-2 - Heat Stress guidance

Committee will forward this item to the September agenda.

11. Wellness piece for the Guidance Manual appendix

Cathy and Mark are working on PTSD guidance for inclusion into the manual's next edition, aiming for fall of 2014.

Action: Committee to discuss as update arising from these minutes in September.

12. Discussion item: GN #6-32 –Moved forward to September for discussion with PSHSA.

13. MOL Report – Joe

Ontario Increases Minimum Wage

Ontario increased the general minimum wage from \$10.25 to \$11 per hour on June 1, 2014. The minimum wages for students, liquor servers, hunting and fishing guides, and homeworkers have also increased.

[Learn More >](#)

Tools Help Employers Comply With Mandatory Basic Awareness Training

The ministry has developed new, free and optional awareness training guidance tools to help employers comply with the mandatory health and safety awareness training that comes into effect July 1. These guidance tools help employers record the training, assess whether their training programs meet the minimum requirements and verify if the previous training of workers and supervisors meets those requirements.

[Learn More >](#)

Protecting Outdoor Workers

Outdoor workers can be at risk of getting tick bites and developing Lyme disease, or getting bitten by an infected mosquito and developing the West Nile virus. Learn how to protect workers from these outdoor hazards.

[Prevent Lyme Disease >](#)

[Prevent West Nile Virus >](#)

Hazard Alert: Fixed Rail Ladder (FRL) Fall Protection System

In 2014, a worker descending a vertical ladder on a water tower was critically injured after falling five metres using a Class Frontal-Fixed Rail Ladder Fall Protection System. Learn what precautions you should take that address potential hazards that could result from its use.

[Learn More >](#)

Hazard Alert: Safety Requirements For Powered Folding Partitions!

The ministry has issued an alert to raise awareness about the potential for serious injuries that could result from the use of powered folding partitions. These partitions are commonly used to separate areas, including in school gymnasiums, community centres, and conference rooms in hotels, convention centres, or any other workplace that may be partitioned.

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Next Meeting Dates:

Proposed:

September 25/26 2014

December 4/5 2014